

# Powering the energy frontier

California State Parks and Recreation, the U.S. Air Force Academy and the Fort Mojave Indian tribe are three of nearly 700 customers that rely on cost-based, hydroelectric power from WAPA. Whether the need is for lighting ballparks and classrooms or providing power to Native American community centers, we serve the West with reliable and affordable energy.

WAPA, as one of four power marketing administrations within the Department of Energy, sells wholesale power and bulk wholesale transmission to local utilities, which then

provide the power to more than 40 million Americans. Employees work around the clock to keep power moving through the interconnected transmission system so that electricity ultimately reaches your home or business.



## What we do

WAPA sells more than 30,000 gigawatt-hours of electricity each year throughout the West. Our customers provide this power to more than 40 million Americans. We market hydroelectric generation from 57 powerplants owned and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers and the International Boundary and Water Commission (U.S. section), which makes up about 40 percent of the available hydropower generated in the West. These powerplants have a combined maximum operating capability of more than 10,500 megawatts.

Under 24/7 operations, we then deliver power through transmission lines, substations and other power facilities that span our 1.4 million-square-mile service territory.

WAPA employees manage projects; ensure environmental protection; establish and monitor system security, reliability and employee safety; design operate and maintain transmission systems; schedule and route power; administer contracts and set rates; analyze hydroelectric resources; and handle administrative functions to deliver power to our customers, which include:

- Municipalities.
- Rural electric cooperatives.
- Native American tribes.
- Public utility and irrigation districts.
- Federal and state agencies.
- Investor-owned utilities.

These power customers, in turn, provide service to retail consumers in Arizona, California, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah and Wyoming.



## Facing the future

The energy industry is rapidly evolving in an environment of new technologies, market designs, generation sources, increasing expectations of service and reliability and an aging infrastructure. We work at the forefront of technological advances and, amid these unprecedented changes to streamline operations, find new efficiencies, meet reliability standards and prepare our infrastructure for the next generation of energy needs. As we adapt to the changes, however, we remain committed to our legacy of stellar customer service. We realize the importance of maintaining the best possible connections with our customers and providing personal, exceptional service.

As we adjust to the new industry realities—integrating new grid technologies and market designs, connecting a variety of generation sources and types and increasing compliance standards—we will continue to work with customers to ensure our system is strong, responsive and available for delivering cost-based power and related ancillary services.



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# Western Area Power Administration

**W**estern Area Power Administration was established in December 1977, under the Department of Energy Organization Act, to market and transmit federal hydroelectric power in 15 central and western states. We operate and maintain our more than 17,000 circuit-mile transmission system from four regional offices: Sierra Nevada in Folsom, California; Upper Great Plains in Billings, Montana; Desert Southwest in Phoenix, Arizona; and Rocky Mountain in Loveland, Colorado. We market power from these regions and the Colorado River Storage Project Management Center in Montrose, Colorado. Our Headquarters office is in Lakewood, Colorado.

Learn more about WAPA at [wapa.gov](http://wapa.gov)

**Our mission**  
Safely provide reliable, cost-based hydropower and transmission to our customers and the communities we serve

## WAPA's service area

SN manages transmission facilities in California to market power from the Central Valley and Washoe projects. SN also maintains ownership rights to capacity on the Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie, the California-Oregon Transmission Project and the Path 15 Upgrade Project. SN operates a sub-balancing authority under the Balancing Authority of Northern California.

### UPPER GREAT PLAINS REGION

Billings

UGP manages transmission facilities in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota and Iowa and markets power from the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program—Eastern Division. UGP transmission facilities are functionally controlled by the Southwest Power Pool. UGP manages the transmission operations control center in Watertown, South Dakota.

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Loveland

Lakewood

Montrose

RM manages transmission facilities in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming and markets power from the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program—Western Division and the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (marketed together as Loveland Area Projects). RM manages a balancing authority in Loveland, Colorado.

### SIERRA NEVADA REGION

Folsom

### DESERT SOUTHWEST REGION

Phoenix

DSW manages transmission facilities in the Southwest, including the southern portion of the Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie, and markets power from the Boulder Canyon and Parker-Davis projects. DSW manages a balancing authority in Phoenix, Arizona.

### COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CENTER

East-West Interconnection separation

The CRSP Management Center markets power from the Colorado River Storage, Collbran and Rio Grande projects (marketed together as the Salt Lake City Area/Integrated Projects) using its transmission facilities in six states.

- Regional boundaries
- State boundaries
- Regional office
- Headquarters office
- ◆ CRSP Management Center office

WAPA's Headquarters office is where its Administrator establishes strategic direction for the organization. HQ also houses the strategic support personnel for Engineering, Information Technology, Environment, Public Affairs, Legal, Financial and other organizationwide activities.